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Committee on Relations with the Host Country

Letter dated 25 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

Further to our letter dated 21 March 2002 addressed to you, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a note verbale from the Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the Permanent Mission of the United States of America concerning a "Notice of Intention to Sell Tax Liens" issued by the City of New York against this Mission's premises in New York City.

I further have the honour to request that this note verbale be included in the documentation to be discussed by the Committee on Relations with the Host Country and that it be circulated as a Committee document.

(*Signed*) Abuzed Omar **Dorda**
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 25 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

[Original: English]

The Permanent Mission of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United States Mission to the United Nations and would like to bring to the latter's attention the enclosed Notice of Intention to Sell Tax Liens issued by the City of New York's Department of Finance against 309 East 48th Street in Manhattan, the premises owned by Libya, housing the Permanent Mission of Libya to the United Nations.

As the United States Mission to the United Nations is well aware, the Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations has heretofore been authorized to convert the seven floors that were intended for commercial use, before they were frozen by President Reagan in 1986, to Mission purposes so that the entire building would be exclusively for Libyan Mission purposes. It is also to be noted that there is no part of the premises that is or has ever been used for "commercial purposes".

In view of the above facts, which are known to the City of New York's Department of Finance, the Libyan Mission to the United Nations strongly protests this illegal action of the Department of Finance of the City of New York as contrary to all diplomatic norms and rules of international law, and officially requests that the United States Mission advise that Department of the illegality of its action and take all necessary measures to ensure that the City revoke its action to sell the alleged tax liens against the above-mentioned premises, and withdraw it from its list of Tax Liens for Sale.

22 March 2002